



# News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

### Benton County

In June 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **David James Sproles** (NC60176547) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly tampered with patients' narcotic pain patches while working at a facility and after he was employed there.

In June 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jeffery D. Warner** (RN60271580) with unprofessional conduct on allegations he used forged prescriptions in an attempt to get drugs, and then didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring program.

### Cowlitz County

In June 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Lynsie Kay Harriman** (CO60445084). Between 2004 and 2012 Harriman was convicted of eight felonies, four gross misdemeanors, and four misdemeanors.

### **Franklin County**

In June 2014 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreement with registered nurse **Glenna K. Tucker** (RN00142058) requiring her to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2013 Tucker was convicted of hit and run and of driving while intoxicated in connection with one incident, and of a separate count of driving while intoxicated in another incident.

### **Grant County**

In June 2014 the Medical Commission ended probation for physician **Thomas J. Laney** (MD00024468).

### **King County**

In June 2014 the Medical Commission entered into an agreement with physician **Wallace R. Hodges** (MD00015517) that permanently restricts him from prescribing controlled substances and psychotropic medication, requires him to surrender his Drug Enforcement Agency registration, and requires him to pay a \$2,000 fine. In 2008 Hodges began treating a 29-year-old woman. He managed her pain medications, but didn't take her medical history, review her records, or talk about her care with others who treated her. Over several years, he prescribed a variety of medications in doses and combinations that put the patient at risk. After the patient was hospitalized for depression and suicidal thoughts, the hospital noted a substance abuse history that Hodges hadn't documented. He didn't adequately document treatment, but allowed the patient to get early refills of potentially harmful medications. Hodges took no action when the patient reported mixing alcohol and narcotics, putting her at risk. The patient entered a detoxification program following a suicide attempt. Hodges continued prescribing medication after the patient completed treatment. In 2011, a day after filling an Oxycontin prescription that Hodges authorized, the patient was found dead in her bed from accidental oxycodone intoxication. Her Oxycontin bottle contained 56 of the original 200 tablets.

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program reinstated the chemical dependency professional credential of **Lee Young** (CP00001474). The program placed him on probation for at least three years, and ordered him to complete continuing education in record keeping, retention and records, chemical dependency professional assessments and treatment plans, and ethics. Young's license was suspended in 2011 because of improper behavior toward clients and poor record keeping.

In June 2014 the Massage Practitioner and Nursing Assistant programs ended probation for massage practitioner and registered nursing assistant **Anthony Delgado** (MA00019552, NA00176806).

In July 2014 the Medical Commission charged physician **Alan Bunin** (MD00010954) with unprofessional conduct. Bunin allegedly didn't comply with a 2011 stipulation requiring him to maintain full and legible medical records.

In June 2014 the Massage Practitioner Program denied a massage practitioner credential to **Jie Tang** (MA60454362), who received training at an unapproved massage school.

In July 2014 **Cindy B. Piper** agreed to cease and desist from unlicensed practice as a dispensing optician and to pay a \$1,000 fine. Piper, who has no license, offered to help fit eyeglasses, identified herself as an optician, and was identified on her employer's website as an optician.

In June 2014 the Medical Assistant Program charged certified medical assistant **Vanessa Morisset** (CM60387315) with unprofessional conduct. Morisset worked at a family practice medical clinic. Charges say that an hour and 15 minutes after she was supposed to start her shift, Morisset was found asleep in an exam room, and when a co-worker awakened her, Morisset allegedly smelled of alcohol, had difficulty opening her eyes, and was unsteady. She had breath alcohol levels of .121 and .128 and a urine sample tested positive for marijuana and morphine.

### **Pacific County**

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended probation for chemical dependency professional and chemical dependency professional trainee **James Harold Harris** (CO60204453, CP60345459).

### **Pierce County**

In June 2014 the Osteopathic Board charged osteopathic physician **Eric D. Thomas** (OP00001758) with unprofessional conduct for not complying with a 2010 agreement to successfully participate in mental health treatment.

In June 2014 the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credential of registered nurse **Deborah A. Clark** (RN00079021).

### **Spokane County**

In June 2014 the Medical Commission ended probation for physician **Dale T. Fetroe** (MD00018950).

In June 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician **Francheska Jones** (VB60105640, VA60136355) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations are that Jones admitted knowing that another pharmacy technician, her boyfriend, stole pills from the hospital pharmacy where they worked. She allegedly admitted storing stolen pills and not reporting the thefts, allowing her boyfriend to come into the pharmacy when he wasn't scheduled to work, and taking medication from the pharmacy without paying for it. Jones, who refused to cooperate with a commission investigation, entered a diversion program after being criminally charged with possession of a controlled substance.

In June 2014 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreement with registered nurse **Nancye N. Hensz** (RN00172143) requiring her to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program. Hensz

didn't comply with a previous substance abuse monitoring contract, including testing positive for drugs for which she lacked prescriptions, submitting synthetic urine for testing, diverting drugs from her employer, and taking her husband's medication.

### **Yakima County**

In June 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Kristine Elizabeth McMillan** (CP60465805) and placed her on probation. McMillan must undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program, and complete continuing education in professional law and ethics. On her application, McMillan said that within the past two years she'd used substances that could impair or limit her ability to practice with reasonable skill and safety. In 2010 she was convicted of second-degree theft and of telephone harassment.

### **Out of State**

**Oregon:** In June 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a medical assistant credential to **Brenda Kay Graham** (CM60406809) and ordered her to undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 1990 Graham was convicted in Oregon of second-degree manslaughter, driving while intoxicated, and three counts of third-degree assault. In 2008 she was convicted in Oregon of tampering with drug records and five counts of identity theft.

**Utah:** In June 2014 the Medical Commission entered into an agreement with physician **Steven R. Angerbauer** (MD60234433) under which his license will be monitored for at least 30 months. Angerbauer must complete courses in ethics, boundaries, recordkeeping, and opioid prescribing, and pay a \$1,500 fine. Angerbauer worked as an occupational medicine physician, treating federal employees at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. At a "gentlemen's club," he met a 28-year-old woman who worked there. He kept a record for her at his home, met her for coffee, examined her back, and prescribed a narcotic pain reliever. Angerbauer later met the woman at his home, at a mall where she worked at a second job in a tattoo shop, and at a gas station. Without conducting tests, Angerbauer continued to prescribe narcotic pain reliever for the woman for about 18 months, with two breaks, one while the woman was in jail. When Angerbauer called in the prescriptions, he left voice messages instead of speaking to a pharmacist. He stopped treating and prescribing for the woman after learning a complaint had been made to the commission, but gave her money, paid for her to stay in a hotel, offered to pay for her books when she expressed interest in earning a General Educational Development diploma, and gave her food.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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